

# ***U.S.-Africa Clean Energy Development and Finance Center***

## **FACT SHEET**

- The *U.S.-Africa Clean Energy Development and Finance Center* (CEDFC or Center) is an initiative by the U.S. Trade and Development Agency, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation and the Export-Import Bank of the United States to provide a coordinated approach to clean energy project development in sub-Saharan Africa.
- Leveraging the resources of these U.S. government trade and development finance agencies is an important component in increasing commercial engagement with sub-Saharan Africa as outlined in President Obama's recently released Presidential Policy Directive on Sub-Saharan Africa, including its Doing Business in Africa Campaign.
- The goals of the CEDFC are to assist sub-Saharan African energy developers implement clean energy projects while promoting U.S. private sector participation in sub-Saharan Africa's economic development.
- Specifically, the CEDFC will provide technical and financial support for clean energy project development including, for example, solar; wind; biomass; geothermal; hydropower; ocean; cogeneration; natural gas (including biogas); distributed generation; energy efficiency; and smart grid development.
- The CEDFC also will provide the U.S. private sector, as well as Sub-Saharan African developers, with a centralized means to identify and access U.S. government support for their clean energy export and investment needs. The Center will coordinate its resources with those of the U.S. private sector, multilateral development banks, local development banks, private banks, and private equity firms.
- In addition, the Center will advance the objectives of the *U.S.-Africa Clean Energy Finance (US-ACEF) Initiative*, announced earlier this year at the United Nations' Rio +20 conference. US-ACEF is a collaborative financing mechanism developed by the State Department, OPIC and USTDA. Financed by \$20 million in State Department funding, US-ACEF aims to catalyze private-sector clean energy deals in OPIC's existing and future pipeline. The Initiative aims to align USTDA's project planning expertise and OPIC's financing and risk mitigation tools in new ways, to support private sector investment and increase support for U.S. businesses and exporters in sub-Saharan Africa's clean energy sector.
- The CEDFC will also support the objectives of the recently signed Declaration of Intent (DOI) between Ex-Im Bank and the Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa Ltd., under which Ex-Im Bank will endeavor to assist in financing up to \$2 billion worth of U.S. technologies, products and services to South Africa's energy sector, with an emphasis on clean-energy development.
- The Center will be housed in the U.S. Consulate General in Johannesburg, South Africa, and draw upon the resources of other U.S. government agencies, for a whole-of-government approach to clean energy project development.